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FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9152
INFO RUCNIRA/IRAN COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 ISTANBUL 000336

SIPDIS

LONDON FOR MURRAY; BERLIN FOR ROSENSTOCK-STILLER; BAKU FOR
HAUGEN; ASHGABAT FOR TANGBORN; BAGHDAD FOR POPAL; DUBAI FOR
IRPO

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/28/2025
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [PINS](#) [ECON](#) [ETRD](#) [IR](#) [TU](#)
SUBJECT: (C) IRAN: A XXXXX CONTACT SHARES VIEWS FROM A RAFSANJANI BUSINESS ALLY ON KHAMENEI'S CANCER AND RAFSANJANI'S NEXT STEPS

Classified By: Consulate General Istanbul Deputy Principal Officer Win Dayton; Reason 1.5 (d).

- [1](#)1. (C) Summary: A XXXXXXXXXXXX businessman who represents the XXXXXXXXXXXX company XXXXXXXXXXXX shared with us a discussion he recently had wi
- [1](#)2. (C) We met XXXXXXXXXXXX with XXXXXXXXXXXX. XXXXXXXXXXXX recently returned from meetings in Tehran with XXXXXXXXXXXX executives, including a
- [1](#)3. (C) According to XXXXXXXXXXXX, XXXXXXXXXXXX is a strong Mousavi supporter who expected to be a potential candidate for Minister of Industry
- [1](#)4. (C) Khamenei has cancer: XXXXXXXXXXXX told XXXXXXXXXXXX that Rafsanjani remains vehemently opposed to Ahmadinejad but is biding his time be
- [1](#)5. (C) "Invisible" general strike: XXXXXXXXXXXX said XXXXXXXXXXXX told him that a growing portion of the Iranian workforce was ISTANBUL 000003
- [1](#)6. (C) XXXXXXXXXXXX
- [1](#)7. (C) XXXXXXXXXXXX
- [1](#)8. (C) XXXXXXXXXXXX

Comment

[1](#)9. (C) XXXXXXXXXXXX has proved to be a credible interlocutor in the past and XXXXXXXXXXXX favorably predisposed to the United States. This is
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Leader in the event of Khamenei's near-term death is far from certain, and indeed is only one of many potential succession scenarios that could

[1](#)10. (C) As a businessman, XXXXXXXXXXXX's primary motivation in pursuing deals with Iranian companies is, of course, the profit motive. But XXX
WIENER